(b) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government on the stand India will adopt at these negotiations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) A Ministerial Declaration on Trade in Information Technology Products was adopted by some World Trade Organisation (WTO) Members, and States or separate customs territories in the process of acceding to the WTO, in Singapore on the expansion of World Trade in Information Technology. India has submitted its offer of an extended staging of reduction in import duties in respect of products covered under the Declaration for review and approval by the participants, scheduled to be completed no later than 1 April, 1997.

Seizure of Gold

3307. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT:

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the month-wise quantity and value of gold confiscated at each of the International Airports during the last one year;

(b) the number of smugglers arrested in this regard; and

(c) the details of action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Production of Cotton

3308. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of cotton production in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up new cotton mills in view of the production of cotton in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any proposal is also under consideration to set up more powerlooms in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) The quantum of cotton production in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years is as under:

In Lakh Bales of 170 Kg. (each)

1993-94	0.124
1994-95	0.116
1995-96	0.151

Source: (Ministry of Agriculture)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) The Government does not propose to set up any powerlooms.

[English]

Delhi Share Market

3309. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation headed by the President of Delhi share market met the Prime Minister on December 19, 1996 and urged him to restore the Badla system to eliminate the stump in share market and gave many suggestions in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of requests/suggestions received by Government in this regard during the last one year; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Delhi Stock Exchange Association Ltd. has informed that their President had met the Prime Minister on 19th December, 1996 and submitted a representation containing various suggestions for the revival of the capital market. One of the suggestions in this representation related to the revival of the 'badla' system of trading in shares. Similar suggestions relating to revival of the 'badla' system and modification of the existing carry-forward system of transactions in stock exchanges have also been received by the Government from the Stock Exchange, Mumbi and some other persons.

(d) A revised 'badla' system of trading in securities was permitted by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in October, 1995. SEBI is the statutory authority for regulating trading in securities in the Stock Exchanges. Government have referred the representation of the Delhi Stock Exchange Association to SEBI for appropriate consideration.

Reorganisation of Public Sector Banks

3310. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose reorganisation and retrenchment in some public sector Banks;